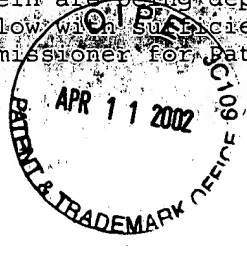


I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



Denise Ortega  
Name

April 2, 2002  
Date

Denise Ortega  
Signature

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Bruce M. Bowman                      Group: 1600  
Serial No.: 09/480,389                      Group Art Unit: 1642  
Filed : January 11, 2000                      Examiner: A. Holleran  
For : Immunoassays to Detect Diseases or Disease  
Susceptibility Traits

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) on November 6, 2001. Please amend the application as indicated below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 31 and amend the claims as follows.